

Mohave County Miner.

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Draining Mexico's Great Lake.

And now the last great lake of the valley of Mexico, owing to the demands of civilization, is to disappear forever. The federal government of the republic to the south has agreed to devote 1,000,000 gold for drainage of Lake Texcoco and the converting of its bed, now impregnated with alkali, into fertile market gardens that are to be sold to the poor in small tracts.

The work that is now under way is of a most unusual character, the removal of the shallow waters that cover an area of over eleven square miles in itself a rather easy feat.

But the rivers that feed the lake are to be run through new channels and the bed of the lake is to be washed. The washing of the alkaline salts from the soil will require a period of nearly two years, and on this work the greater part of the money will be spent.

Mexico City was founded in 1325, the first house being built on piles out in what was then Texcoco lake. From the first, up to about fifteen years ago it has suffered from floods, and long before the Spaniards came the Aztecs cut a drainage canal. The conquerors improved the work, but it was only when President Porfirio Diaz had a tunnel driven through the mountains to the northeast of the town that the overflow of the streets was stopped.

Years ago, before Benito Juarez prohibited religious processions, it was the custom when the waters rose, to carry the statue of the Virgin from the little church of Los Remedios, through the city streets. Whether it was a coincidence or not, it is a matter of history that the floods subsided after the devotional exercises.

When Hernando Cortez, with his little band of adventurers from Spain arrived for the first time in Tenochtitlan, as Mexico was then called, he found a city of 300,000 inhabitants out in the lake reached by two giant causeways. The city was intersected by numerous canals and most properly called "The Venice of the Aztecs." On the night of July 30 of the following year the Spaniards made their escape along what is now known as Hombres Ilustres avenue. It is recorded that the Aztecs attacked the band of fugitives in canoes all along their line of retreat. They paddled over what is now the Alameda Park and the well-built streets to the north of the avenue. In front of where the Hipolito church now stands a canal intersected the causeway, the bridge had been destroyed. Pedro Alvarado, who commanded the rear guard of the Christians, was left behind. The Indians cried that now the death of their kinsmen would be avenged. But the brave little knight ran forward, placed the end of his spear in the bottom of the ditch and vaulted to safety. And even to this day the street bears the name of the Bridge of Alvarado.

Cortez and what was left of his men took refuge in the land of the friendly Tlaxcala Indians, but after receiving reinforcements from Spain returned and retook the city. Sails and cordage were brought from Vera Cruz, ships of war were built and Tenochtitlan was attacked from all sides. The conquerors leveled the houses and filled in the canals as they advanced. The giant pyramid made of dirt and stone, the Aztec holy temple, was obliterated.

The Spaniards rebuilt the city on a new plan and then commenced to fight back the waters of Lake Texcoco. However, in 1810, when the Mexicans commenced their war for independence, much of the waters remained as well as all of Lake Chalco and Xochimilco.

Xochimilco (flower garden) lay some fifteen miles to the south of the capital almost uniting with Lake Chalco. Even before the conquest the natives suffered from lack of land and on the bosom of Lake Xochimilco gardens were flooded. The Indians made mats of rushes, piled silt from the bottom of the lakes upon them and raised flowers which have always been in demand in the city for religious feasts, be they pagan or christian. As more and more soil was piled upon the mats

they sunk and became islands, until today all that remains of Lake Xochimilco is a number of canals.

Lake Chalco was partly obliterated in like manner. But several years ago Inigo Noriega, a wealthy Spaniard, purchased the old lake bed. He went to Europe, organized a company with a capital of 1,500,000 and drained all of the land, and now the old lake is one of the richest haciendas in the Republic of Mexico.

All that now remains of the chain of lakes is Lake Texcoco, and its western borders are nearly three miles from the City of Mexico. About its shores lie alkali flats that, during the dry season, furnish the capital with great clouds of most unwelcome dust. This is not only a nuisance but a menace to the public health.

Engineer Ignacio de la Barra, brother of the former president of the country, while head of the department of public works, inaugurated the plan of protecting the city from dust storms by planting thousands of trees in the surrounding country.

But Lake Texcoco menaces the city in another way. Its bed is rising, and if this is allowed to continue Mexico will be again flooded. Now the waters only average a depth of three feet and the bottom is rising an inch a year.—Phoenix Gazette.

New Smelter to be Built at Globe.

Positive confirmation of the report, printed exclusively by the Arizona Record on June 29, that an immense smelting plant will be built in Globe district within the next few months was obtained last night. From an authoritative source it was learned that plans for the new smelting plant are nearly complete and that the work of actual construction may be expected to begin within a comparatively short time. The smelter will be built in the vicinity of Burch station, less than five miles from the heart of the city.

The new smelter which is to be built by the International Smelting & Refining company, will be one of the largest and most completely equipped plants in the southwest. It will compare favorably with the great smelters of the Copper Queen and C. & A. at Douglas and will be fitted throughout with the latest of modern improvements in smelting and refining machinery.

Although the plans have not been wholly completed it is known that the plant will include three reverberatory furnaces and four or five converters. The smelter will be approximately three times the size of that of the Old Dominion company here.

The smelter project has been given impetus by the fact that through the adoption of the flotation process the Inspiration company is to begin producing at a much earlier date than was at first contemplated. Under the original plans, before the flotation process was tested and decided upon, the Inspiration company did not expect to have its mill ready for operation before the first of the year 1915. Under the new plan, however, production will begin six months or more earlier and it is likely that by this time next year the company will be shipping concentrates to a new smelter at Burch.

The Miami Copper company, which is now shipping its concentrates to Cananea, will send its ore to the new smelter which will also handle customs ores. This fact is expected to result in greatly increased development in the district as a large number of good properties have not been operated because of the impracticability of shipping ore to smelters at distant points.

Magnitude of the Inspiration's property and development and the bearing its future operations will have upon the Globe district are shown in the following statements made in Thompson, Towle & Company's News Letter of July 16:

"The Inspiration Consolidated Copper Co.'s property is the sixth largest copper mine in the world based on ore reserves while, with the completion of its plants now under construction it

should take its place as the sixth largest producer of copper. Among the mines of the United States, Inspiration is fourth in point of tonnage and will be fifth of the copper producers. Outside of the United States it is surpassed in ore reserves by but two mines and based on present production will be exceeded by but one mine in the annual output of the red metal.

The Inspiration property is one of the so-called low-grade porphyry mines, which properties have attracted so much attention in the past few years, through their wonderful achievements in producing large quantities of copper at low cost.

"The Inspiration property is the scene of considerable activity. Several hundred men are now employed in preparing the mine for the extraction of the ore and in the general equipment campaign which is in progress at the property. The initial stage at Inspiration has long since been passed which resulted in the development of 45,000,000 tons of ore assaying 2 per cent copper. This tonnage is sufficiently large to justify the construction of a 7500-ton daily capacity concentrator and now all energy is being confined to the erection of this plant and the work incident to placing the mine on a producing basis.—Globe Record.

Hart Mining District.

Hart, the desert mining camp that sprang into existence in the spring of 1908, during the panicky days, flourishing with all the frills and excitement of a newly discovered Nevada mining camp, afterwards thawing out seems destined to make good yet.

Hart is located on the extreme eastern end of San Bernardino county, California, close to the Nevada state line and about five miles from Barnwell. The original discovery was made in January 1908, by Hart and Hitt, two Goldfield prospectors.

Since that time there has been three mines developed, a 10-stamp mill erected and a large tonnage of ore blocked out to great depth in the camp. This has been accomplished in spite of the knocks that the camp has received and the recurring effects of the misrepresentations of the "ground floor" promoters.

The formation in the Hart district is rhyolitic, the ore coming from an immense brecciated zone, where it occurs in lenses of quartz that are cemented together with kaolinite. A singular feature of the district is the entire absence of walls.

The Big Chief mine has been developed with a 200-foot vertical shaft and 3,000 feet of laterals. Twenty men are employed in the mine, one half of the force being engaged in producing and the balance in future development. There is a large tonnage blocked out for extraction and the management is keeping this work up on an even basis with the production. The values run from 68 to 308 in gold per ton. The water for the 10-stamp mill comes from Barnwell, nine miles distant, by gravity.

F. E. Browne, formerly of Goldfield, who was connected with the C. O. D. and Gold Bar mines is in charge of the development on the Big Chief. On the Oro Bell the main shaft has attained a depth of 800 feet and drifting is now being performed on the 700 and 800-foot levels. There is an abundance of ore on this property and a mill will be installed upon the solution of the water problem.

E. M. MARTIN.

Chief Consolidated.

While in Salt Lake President Walter Fitch of the Chief Consolidated company stated that during the next two or three weeks there would be noticed a decrease in the amount of ores shipped to the smelters, and he explained why this would be, so that shareholders may be advised, says a Salt Lake dispatch. Mr. Fitch stated that the management had decided to inaugurate the filling system of mining, adopting the Bisbee system of filling the stopes as stoping progresses.

The company has been convinced that this innovation for the Chief Consolidated is essential from several viewpoints. In the first place, the lime walls are very unstable and full of irregular fissures, which makes plain timbering insufficient at times to properly hold the ground. With the Chief Consolidated officials safety of the men employed always has been and is the first consideration, and Mr. Fitch determined to adopt the new system before a mine accident would of necessity inspire such action.

Stopes in the Chief Consolidated are very large as a rule, being from 40 to 50 feet in width, and they are carried from level to level as the ore makes in an upright position. It is the plan to fill in all the stopes to within one set of the backs, thereby eliminating any possibility of injury to the men and any loss of stopes and ore as might occur at any time under the old system.

The new system will not be a great deal more expensive than the old from a mere cost standpoint, although in order to get a sufficient amount of filling it is necessary to send out drifts from the stope at strategic points. The experience has been in Arizona that these drifts have more than paid for themselves, in their ore discoveries the Calumet & Arizona company being especially fortunate in this regard. And in the case of the Chief Consolidated, said Mr. Fitch, the drifts have already acted similarly and they give promise of being first-class ore development drifts steadily.

It will take two or three weeks to bring the filling in the principal stopes to the point desired, during which ore production naturally will be interfered with, but following which production will be resumed at normal rate.

Cananea Plant May be Forced to Close.

Reports that the plant of the Cananea Consolidated Copper Company may be shut down in the near future interested mining circles here yesterday. There is particular interest here in the situation at Cananea because a number of Globe people are there, including George Kingdon, former superintendent of the Old Dominion.

The following report from the El Paso Times is the latest news received here regarding the situation:

"Dr. W. D. Neal, formerly employed in the medical department of the Cananea Consolidated Copper company at Cananea, Sonora, has resigned his position and has departed for his home at Dallas. Speaking of the situation at Cananea here yesterday he says conditions are very uncertain. He predicts a complete shutdown of the big smelter in the near future. The copper production has been curtailed almost eighty per cent he says, and he voices the sentiment that the management would view a shutdown with favor.

"Only 140 Americans are left on the pay roll, while the total number employed will not exceed 1800 of a camp which formerly employed approximately 6,000 men."—Globe Record.

M. G. Wagner in company of Chas. W. Clark, made the run with his machine from Kingman to the Copper Giant mine, eight miles east of Hackberry, last Wednesday, leaving here at 6:30 and arriving at the mine at 8:30. The return trip was made in about the same running time, arriving in Kingman about two o'clock.

Suffered Eczema Fifty Years—Now Well.

Seems a long time to endure the awful burning, itching, smarting, skin-disease known as "tetter,"—another name for Eczema. Seems good to realize, also, that Dr. Hobson's Eczema Ointment has proven a perfect cure.

Mrs. D. L. Kenney writes:—"I cannot sufficiently express my thanks to you for your Dr. Hobson's Eczema Ointment. It has cured my tetter, which has troubled me for over fifty years." All druggists, or by mail 50c. Pfeiffer Chemical Co.

St. Louis, Mo. Philadelphia, Pa.

Bull Valley Gold Ore Averages High.

A sack of gold ore brought in a few days ago by Manager McQuarrie, of the Bull Valley company of this state, has been sold in the local market for 4,500\$. There were ninety-four pounds in this lot, so the per ton average is close to the 100,000\$ mark. The shipment consisted of high-grade which the management has taken out in the past few days of development work in the upper tunnel, and it was deemed best to get rid of it rather than have it sticking around at the property. It is pretty good stuff to convert into gold coins at any season of the year.—Salt Lake Tribune.

Minister Praises this Laxative

Rev. H. Stubenvoll of Allison, Ia., in praising Dr. King's New Life Pills for constipation, writes:—"Dr. King's New Life Pills are such perfect pills no home should be without them." No better regulator for the liver and bowels. Every Pill guaranteed. Try them. Price 25c, at H. H. Watkins.

NEW BOAT AT GREGG'S FERRY
Mohave County, seventy miles from Kingman; 10 by 35; capable of carrying 10 tons. Can cross at any time.
THOMAS GREGG.

cool
weather
at
California
beaches

Why not spend
August and September
where cool sea
breezes blow.

The sun and sand
baths--and the
daily plunge in
the Pacific--will
do wonders for
you--

The expense is
not great

Summer excursion
fares via Santa Fe
to most all
California Beaches.

We would suggest:

near Los Angeles

Santa Monica--Ocean
Park--Venice--San
Pedro--Redondo Beach
Long Beach--Newport
Bilboa--Catalina.

between Los Angeles and San Diego

Laguna Beach--Del Mar
Oceanside

near San Diego

Coronado Tent City
and La Jolla

Let us help plan your
trip--

D. N. STEWART,
Agent

